

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • November 2011

Book Night Tribute to Statesman Richard Holbrooke

EVENT PREVIEW: NOVEMBER 28

by Sonya K. Fry

Richard Holbrooke, who died in December 2010, was a pivotal player in U.S. diplomacy for more than 40 years. Most recently as the special envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan under President Obama, Holbrooke also served as assistant secretary of state for both Asia and Europe, and as ambassador to both Germany and the United Nations. He had a key role in brokering a peace agreement among warring factions in Bosnia that led to the Dayton Peace Accords in 1995.

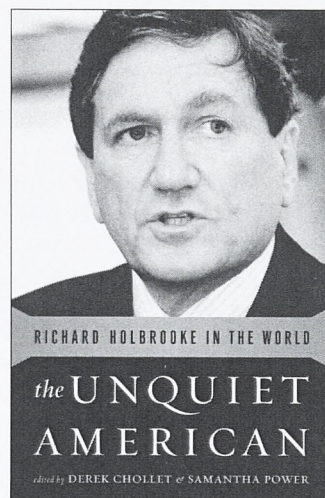
The Unquiet American: Richard Holbrooke in the World [PublicAffairs Books, Nov. 2011] is a collection of writing by the friends and colleagues who knew him best as well as excerpts from Holbrooke's own trenchant writing. This book is both a tribute to an exceptional public servant and a backstage history of the last half-century of American foreign policy. *The Unquiet American* offers an up-close look at statecraft, journalism, politics, public service and America's role in the world that Holbrooke helped to shape.

Contributors include OPC member **Roger Cohen** who writes about Holbrooke's vision for America in

Europe; **David Rohde** on Holbrooke's role in Afghanistan and Pakistan; **Strobe Talbott** on Holbrooke's impact on the course of American foreign policy during the apex of American power. Other writers include **Richard Bernstein** on Holbrooke's role as Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia during the Carter years; **James Traub** writes on Holbrooke's tenure at the United Nations and **Gordon Goldstein** on Holbrooke's experiences in Vietnam.

The event will take place at the Asia Society, 725 Park Avenue (at 70th Street) at 6:30 p.m. followed by a book sale and reception. OPC members pay \$10 which is the rate for Asia Society members. Please RSVP by calling the Asia Society box office 212-517-7242. Alternatively you can log-on to their website asiasociety.org and set up an online account. Once registered you can use the Promo Code "asia725" that is set up for OPC members.

Please join **Kati Marton** and contributors to *The Unquiet American* for a thoughtful discussion on Holbrooke's life, legacy and directions in U.S. foreign policy in today's world.



Is Asia About to Out-Innovate America?

EVENT PREVIEW: NOVEMBER 29

Americans have suffered the loss of jobs to East Asia, but have retained an edge in terms of advanced technological innovation. But now, start-up companies are emerging in China, India, Vietnam, Singapore and Taiwan and are attracting some of the best and brightest from the West to create innovative new ideas and take them to global markets. Can they really do it? What should be the American response?

To discuss these timely subjects, come to a Dutch Treat luncheon (Club Quarters menu) conversation with Rebecca Fannin, author of *Startup Asia: Top Strategies for Cashing in on Asia's Innovation Boom*



Rebecca Fannin

[Wiley, October 2011]. Fannin, an OPC member, travels extensively between the American East Coast, Silicon Valley and the hot spots of East Asia. This is her second book, following *Silicon Dragon: How China Is Winning The Tech Race* [McGraw Hill, 2008.]

Hosting the session will be former OPC President William J. Holstein, who also has deep experience with innovation on both sides of the Pacific. Discussion and luncheon will be held in the board room, basement level, Club Quarters, 40 West 45 Street from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29. Reservations are essential. Call the OPC at 212-626-9220 or e-mail boots@opcofamerica.org.

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Panel Discusses How to Get to the Story and Report Humanitarian Issues

EVENT RECAP: SEPTEMBER 22

by Aimee Vitrak

The OPC, New York Women's Initiative for CARE and New York University's Wagner School hosted a panel on "Humanitarian Emergencies: the Role of the Media" at NYU on September 22.

Panelists included Allan Dodds Frank, investigative reporter, former OPC president and director of OPC Global Parachute; Cath Turner, reporter and producer, Al Jazeera English; Hina Chaudhry, MD, associate professor of medicine at Mount Sinai; and Sam Gregory, program director, Witness, co-author of *Cameras Everywhere 2011 Report*. The panel was moderated by Alan Murray, deputy managing editor and executive editor, online, *The Wall Street Journal*.

Frank led the panel by asking who is there to cover people who are suffering and how are these people covered and portrayed in the media? He said he used to think tagging along with a non-governmental organization sullied the integrity of the journalist. "People still want to go and report. The question is, how do you fund it?" Frank said. "What you have now are people who write for many publications. Hybrid journalists go overseas with Save the Children to pay for their trip. If a reporter does this and fully discloses it, then it's okay."

Turner from Al Jazeera said it takes money to put boots on the ground. "The man who owns Al Jazeera is very rich," she said. "The money goes not to salaries but to infrastructure."

Gregory of Witness.org spoke about how his organization began 20 years ago with the amateur video footage of the Rodney King beating. "Now it's easier to



From left: OPC member Brian Byrd, Dr. Hina Chaudhry and Sonya Fry.



Allan Dodds Frank speaks with a student after the event.

Photos: Aimee Vitrak

report but there are increased safety risks to people who are not journalists in the traditional sense," Gregory said. All agreed there's more information now than ever to slog through, but there are not enough editors and news organizations to discern substantiated news from heresay. Non-governmental organizations are also having an impact on traditional media. Frank summarized by saying, "journalism gives you the facts, which is better than giving you a sermon."

O'Shea Recap: (Continued From Page 3)

zine, once \$6 million in the red, went into the black. He also resisted market-driven research to dictate the news, an idea that Zell and others who he hired — like Randy Michaels a former Clear Channel executive as CEO of the Tribune Company — embraced. "The Tribune had always been run by newspaper guys," O'Shea said. "In the 1980s, that bond was broken when we had professional managers come in, which changed the whole face of the American newspaper industry." Now the news at the Tribune Company relies more on numbers and focus groups, an approach O'Shea

believes is fundamentally flawed. "A newspaper has to have a community leadership role," O'Shea said. "You don't just give them what they want. You have to provide a path and guidance to a situation. We put news and events in context."

O'Shea is back in Chicago as CEO and Editor-in-Chief of the nonprofit Chicago News Cooperative, which produces two pages of local Chicago news that appear twice a week in copies of *The New York Times* distributed in the Chicago area (chicagonewscoop.org). O'Shea's two previous books are *The Daisy Chain* and *Dangerous Company: Management Consultants and the Businesses They Save and Ruin*.

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OPC Bulletin
ISSN-0738-7202 Copyright
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People Remembered: Albert E. Kaff

June 14, 1920 - October 25, 2011



Al Kaff at the OPC Japan Hands Reunion, March 2010, which was the last OPC event he co-organized and attended.

Albert E. Kaff, 91, died of a heart attack at St. Vincent's Hospital in Bridgeport, Connecticut, at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, October 25. There will be no memorial, viewing or service. He requested that any memorial gifts be made to the Salvation Army. Al will be buried at his hometown, Atchison, Kansas.

Go to the OPC website opcofamerica.org to read Al's obituary and his thoughts, written in 2009, on being a foreign correspondent and being in Vietnam in the late 1950s.

The OPC has lost a dedicated and revered member of the OPC family: **Al Kaff** died on October 25. He was a longtime foreign correspondent and vice president of United Press International and later a public relations writer for Cornell University. The OPC is honored to have been his final byline. At 91, he filed 6,771 words for his "People" and "New Books" columns that are included in this issue. His columns have run in the *Bulletin* since 1990.

Please log into the website, opcofamerica.org, and add your reflections on Al Kaff, or send your thoughts by e-mail to aimee@opcofamerica.org for inclusion in a special edition of the December *Bulletin*.



O'Shea Pulls No Punches in Book on Newspapers, Zell

EVENT RECAP: OCTOBER 5

by Aimee Vitrak

When Jim O'Shea agreed to take the reins of the *Los Angeles Times* in November 2006, he sensed a shift in values of the paper's owner, Sam Zell, from quality writing to quarterly earnings. After several staff cuts over his 18 months as editor, O'Shea refused his bosses demands to cut staff again. The stand he took for the newsroom cost him his job, but also inspired him to write a book that explained to others and especially himself, what exactly had transpired in journalism in not just his tenure at the Tribune Company, but in journalism in the past 30 years. The book became *The Deal From Hell: How Moguls and Wall Street Plundered Great American Newspapers*, which O'Shea discussed at a Book Night on October 5.

Former OPC President Allan Dodds Frank served as Interlocutor. Frank's introduction began with O'Shea being a fabled editor who was "released" from his duties at the *Los Angeles Times*. "The fable is that he didn't want to fire any more reporters or editors, which is about as noble a thing you can do in the news business such that it is today," Frank said. "Before he was an editor and big cheese, he was a hell of a reporter."

O'Shea, an OPC member and a former board member, started his journalism career as a U.S. Army reporter covering Korea for *Stars and Stripes*. He worked at the *Des Moines Register* following the war and then joined the *Chicago Tribune* as a reporter in 1979 and worked his way up to managing editor.

Frank asked what O'Shea's feelings are now about the financial machine in America and how capitalists get funded.

"We've gone so far beyond rational in terms of raising money to fund businesses," O'Shea said. "It's been a way to just generate fees and profits. There's not too much thought of can we raise capital to get businesses off the ground? It's more can we make a lot of money?"

O'Shea explained his upbringing with a father who was an electrician and that his version of capitalism came down to unions and electrical contractors. "As a reporter, I always felt that I was a worker and the guys who owned the paper were capitalists and we fought all the time,"

O'Shea said.

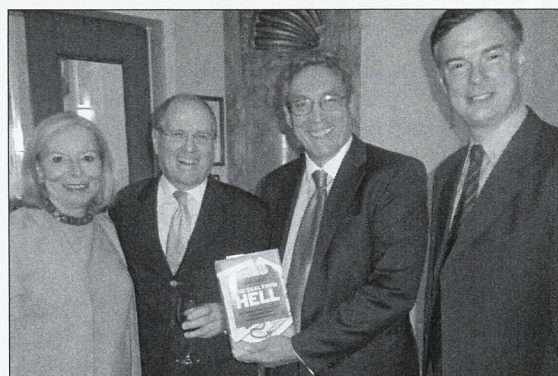
This debate with management intensified when O'Shea went to Los Angeles. The disagreement was about the fundamental business approach: O'Shea argued that if cuts were to be made, the company owed it to the paper, public and employees to reinvest this money into alternate forms of journalism, like expanding its Internet arm. "The cutting wasn't working and we cut and we cut and we cut and [Zell] kept passing off all this money to the guys on Wall Street who are demanding these returns," O'Shea said. The Tribune Company, O'Shea argued had a revenue problem that was treated like a cost problem and the more it was treated like a cost problem the worst the revenue became.

The differences in approach cost O'Shea the editorship of the *LATimes*.

Also at stake was money. "Not a lot, but they did owe me," O'Shea said. Management said the only way O'Shea would see the money is if he signed a non-disparagement agreement. O'Shea refused to sign and began to consider writing a book. He said, "I must have something to say if they're going to try to take the money away from me, maybe I should write a book."

His other motivation to write the book was to better explain his situation to himself. "I was here right in the middle of the whole thing, but if I had to write a newspaper story or a book, do I know what happened?" O'Shea asked himself. "You can say you think you do, but when you start to think like an editor or reporter, you think, okay. Can I document this? I think this happened. How can I show people that happened?"

Frank suggested they discuss either O'Shea's career or his tangle with Zell. "I think most people here are interested in Zell," O'Shea said and went on to describe his entry into the newsroom at the *LATimes* as the paper's third editor in two years. The newsroom was in revolt



Lisa Anderson and Stevenson Swanson flank author Jim O'Shea and Interlocutor Allan Dodds Frank. Anderson and Swanson worked in the *Chicago Tribune's* New York office when Jim O'Shea was the Managing Editor.



Peter Osnos, founder of Public Affairs Books; Jane Ciabattari OPC Secretary, and the author Jim O'Shea.

against the Tribune Company because of continuous staff cuts and layoffs and the rivalry and tension between the Chicago and Los Angeles newsrooms was running at an all-time high. O'Shea entered the *LATimes* newsroom to find photos of the paper's two previous editors — Dean Baquet and Otis Chandler — and said to himself, "I'm a dead man." *Los Angeles Times* then-Managing Editor Douglas Frantz told him that he'd always be viewed in this newsroom as a hatchet man from Chicago. O'Shea said he relied on good journalists who traffic in fairness. He looked them in the eye and said, "I'm a reporter. I came here because I think I can help. I'm only asking you one thing: give me a chance to earn your respect." To their credit, O'Shea said, over the next 18 months they gave him that chance.

O'Shea's first directive from Zell was to lay off 90 people. O'Shea refused. Thus began a constant duel between owner and editor. O'Shea said he was proud that under his stewardship, circulation had improved and its weekly maga-

(Continued on Page 2)

Call for 2011 OPC Foundation Scholarship Applicants

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

Graduate and undergraduate students, studying at American colleges and universities, or Americans studying abroad, who aspire to become foreign correspondents, are invited to apply for one of fourteen scholarships or internships to be awarded by the Overseas Press Club Foundation.

Winning an OPC Foundation scholarship or internship is more than a cash award. Winners are invited to join the Overseas Press Club family (see OPC Scholars update on page 5, "People"). Winners are encouraged to network and keep the organization apprised of their career moves. The Foundation pays travel and living expenses for interns in foreign bureaus at such leading news organization as the Associated Press and Reuters, among others, and at foreign English-language media companies like the *South China Morning Post* and *Cambodia Daily*. In many cases, winning a prestigious OPC Foundation

award has helped launch careers.

Judges require that applicants submit a Cover Letter, Resume and Essay. The Essay of approximately 500 words should concentrate on an area of the world or an international issue that is in keeping with the applicant's interest. It can be in the form of a story, news analysis or a traditional essay. The Cover Letter should be autobiographical in nature addressing such questions as how the applicant developed an interest in this particular part of the world, or how he or she would use the scholarship to further journalistic ambitions. The judges respond well to applications showing strong reporting skills, color, and understanding or passion. Winners will be contacted in December so that arrangements can be made for them to attend the Foundation Scholarship Luncheon in February 17, 2012 in New York City. Recipients are expected to attend.

For more details on applying, go to the Foundation website: overseaspressclubfoundation.org.

INSI Launches in N. America as Media Deaths Climb

EVENT RECAP: OCTOBER 14

by INSI

The International News Safety Institute marked the launch of its North American arm on Friday, October 14. That day, the number of journalists killed since the start of 2011 rose to 97.

With this somber news in mind, a panel of celebrated reporters and industry leaders spoke to an audience of over 50 people in New York about dangers and risks, in what has been one of the bloodiest in recent years for those working in journalism.

CNN International's **Michael Holmes** moderated a discussion between **Santiago Lyon** (AP Director of Photography and OPC Board Member), **Cami McCormick** (correspondent for CBS News), **David Lee Miller** (correspondent for FoxNews) and INSI's **Hannah Storm** on topics including the Arab Spring, social media, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and the need for new safety practices in reporting environments.

"INSI figures are showing 97 of our colleagues killed this year, and it's only October," Holmes reminded the panel in his opening remarks.

Holmes appreciates the dangers of the job acutely: In 2004, reporting in Iraq, he survived an ambush on a convoy which left two CNN staff dead. Many of the panelists, like Holmes, had one time in their career or another, found themselves under

fire. CBS' McCormick was seriously injured in Afghanistan in 2009 by a roadside bomb. "I still get nightmares," she told the audience. She and Holmes admitted that adrenalin and a feeling of responsibility drive them back to dangerous beats.

And while such risk hotspots used to be traditional conflict zones — covered by seasoned war correspondents — dangers are emerging in a whole spectrum of environments. Nowadays journalists with little experience of reporting from hostile environments can quite as easily find themselves caught up in unsafe situations, as was the case during the Arab Spring, and in the aftermath of natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina and the earthquakes in Japan and Haiti.

"You don't have to be a high flying war correspondent to be in a dangerous situation," said INSI's Hannah Storm, who discussed the benefits of the secure email exchange she coordinates for operational journalists, news editors and managers, to share confidential and time sensitive advice on a range of safety issues affecting news teams.

INSI's newly appointed director for North America, **Judith Matloff**, noted specifically that traditional war training does little to help journalists working in the one of the two most dangerous countries in the world for journalists, Mexico, where drug cartels regularly ensure that reporters don't survive their stories.



From left: Michael Holmes, Cami McCormick, Hannah Storm, Santiago Lyon and David Lee Miller.

The panel also discussed the relative merits — when it comes to safety — of better communications technologies. "Journalists can now stay in harm's way longer," said the AP's Lyon, noting that before the rise of social media and smart phones, reporters would have to return to the safety of their hotels to file stories.

The reporting landscape has changed, the panel agreed, and new safety training and trauma care resources are needed for more and more journalists — including citizen reporters.

"There's a time and a place for more traditional security training, but there's a need to develop training more bespoke to country and crisis," said Storm, adding that INSI was creating such a training curriculum and also provided safety advice and tips for journalists on its website, as well as safety advisories, compiled from the non-confidential information garnered from INSI's email forum.



PEOPLE... with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

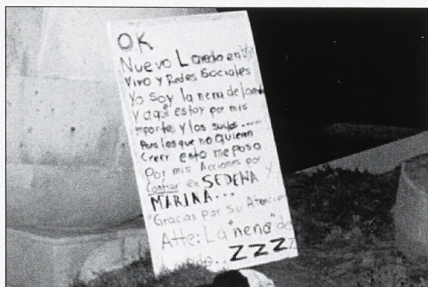
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

In addition to a \$2,000 scholarship, some winners of OPC Foundation scholarships are selected for internships in the overseas bureaus of AP and Reuters. The internships last up to two months and sometimes lead to fulltime employment. At the Foundation board meeting October 4, board member **Sally Jacobsen** of AP gave this report on this year's six interns: **Mark Oltmann** did a great job for AP in Thailand, as did **Leah Finnegan** (a 2010 winner) in Cairo. **Sisi Tang** (Hong Kong) and **Jialu Chen** (Taipei) are now in Reuters bureaus and **Alexander Besant** starts in the Cairo AP bureau next week. **Kim Chakanetsa** hopes to go to the Johannesburg bureau next summer after her USA-work visa expires, and a Reuters internship in Singapore awaits **Ajay Makan**.

At the foundation board meeting, Foundation President **William J. Holstein** reported that **Don Underwood** has resigned as treasurer because family health problems have kept him from Manhattan.

MURDERS: Pakistani journalist **Faisal Qureshi**, web editor of *The London Post*, a London-based news portal that covers Pakistan affairs, was found dead by his brother and cousin at 2 a.m. October 7. His body showed signs of torture and his throat was slit. His brother had become suspicious when he called him several times on his mobile phone but found his phone switched off.

The decapitated body of **Maria Elizabeth Macias Castro**, 39, editor-in-chief of the Mexican newspaper *Primera Hora*, was found September 24 in Mexico's northern state of Tamaulipas. A message attributed to a criminal group was found next to her body. The message stated not to use blogs or social media to report about drug cartels. The OPC Freedom of the Press Committee wrote a letter the week



Castro's murderers placed her body in front of a poster with the ominous note.

of Castro's murder urging the Mexican government to redouble its efforts in stopping the murder of journalists.

Li Xiang, 30, a journalist with Luoyang Television in Henan province, China was stabbed to death September 19. He was stabbed more than 10 times when he was returning home at dawn. Li covered social issues and had been following police investigation into the sale of cooking oil made from residues taken from gutters. The last entry in his blog was about the cooking oil scandal.

Two journalists were murdered in Peru in September. **José Oquendo Reyes**, an investigative reporter who covered local corruption in the Chíncha region, was shot to death five times at close range September 14 by unidentified men on a motorcycle outside his home. **Pedro Alonso Flores Silva**, program director of Canal 6 TV in the city of Casma, was murdered September 7. Three suspects were arrested, and one of them confessed that his intention was just "scaring" the victim.

Medardo Flores, a reporter and political activist in Honduras, was shot to death by at least two gunmen who attacked him in his car in the city of Puerto Cortés and fired nine bullets into him on the night of September 8. Flores, a farmer, also

worked for *Honduras Weekly*, a privately-owned independent newspaper, and he was a member of the National Popular Resistance Front, a group that supports former President Manuel Zelaya, who was deposed in a 2009 coup. Flores was the fifth journalist killed in Honduras this year, making Latin America the deadliest region in the world for journalists this year with 26 killed so far this year.

Also on September 8, **Hadi al-Mahdi**, 44, host of a talk show on Radio Demozy in Baghdad, was fatally shot twice in the head in his home. His broadcasts spared no one, neither the prime minister nor his detractors, and he had received warnings that something terrible was going to happen to him.



Hadi al-Mahdi

Two men were arrested September 30 and October 1 in the strangulation murder of women journalists **Ana Maria Yarce Viveros**, founder of the weekly magazine *Contralínea*, and **Rocio González Trápaga**, a freelance journalist. They were kidnapped August 31 when they left their office in Mexico City, and their bodies were found in a park the next day. The suspects, both in their 20s, reportedly confessed they attacked the women to rob them of a large sum of money.

BEIJING: **Ji Xuguang**, a reporter for the *Southern Metropolis Daily*, one of China's most aggressive independent newspapers, was arrested in September after he wrote that authorities tried to keep the public in the dark about a lurid crime. Ji was charged with disclosing state secrets. The charge stemmed from his reports on how a former civil servant kidnapped six women, ages 16 to 24, from the karaoke parlors where they worked

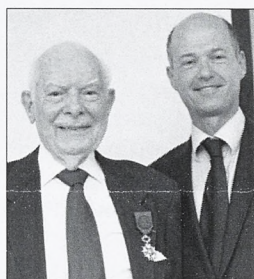
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and imprisoned them for over two years in an underground bunker, forcing the women to have sex with him and killing two of them.

CAIRO: Wael Yunna, a reporter for a Coptic television station, and blogger **Mina Daniel** were killed October 9 during street clashes between Egyptian Christian protestors and the military and riot police.

CANTON, Massachusetts: OPC member **Bernard S. Redmont**, 92, who reported from France for 27 years while a CBS News correspondent, was promoted to Officer in the French Legion of Honor September 27. He was decorated as a knight in the Legion in 1973. His latest French award was presented by Christophe Guilhou, French consul general in the United States, in a ceremony in Canton, where Redmont and his wife Joan have lived for some 17 years. Guilhou praised Redmont for his "outstanding contributions to the strong bond that unites the two countries." Bernard's son Dennis, also a journalist and OPC member, and daughter Jane, a theology professor, spoke at the ceremony. In France, where he also worked for AFP and was president of the Anglo-American Press Association in Paris, Redmont covered the rise and decline of Charles de Gaulle, the Vietnam peace talks and the French-Algerian War. In 1968, he broke the story that the bombing of North Vietnam had ended, leading to the Paris peace negotiations.



Bernard Redmont, left, and his son Dennis.

HONG KONG: Members of the Foreign Correspondents' Club gathered October 10 to toast veteran foreign correspondent **Clare Hollingworth** on her 100th birthday. OPC member **Steve Herman**, a VOA correspondent, wrote, "Most of Hollingworth's colleagues toasting her 100th birthday were not even born when she achieved her first and most famous scoop [Nazi Germany's 1939 invasion of Poland that started

Rooney Gives Farewell Broadcast on "60 Minutes"

by **Al Kaff**

"And now a few minutes with Andy Rooney."

But no more. **Andy Rooney**, 92, the folksy, curmudgeon commentator on CBS "60 Minutes," gave his last regular weekly broadcast October 2. On his farewell broadcast, Rooney was interviewed by **Morley Safer**, a "60 Minutes" colleague. "Not many people are as lucky as I have been," Andy said. "All this time I've been paid to say what is on my mind on television. You don't get any luckier in life than that... I'm not a TV personality, I'm a writer... I have hoped people will like what I write." He objected to personal attention, saying he rarely answered fan mail, and "What kind of idiot would want my name written on a piece of paper? I never give autographs... If you see me in a restaurant, let me finish my dinner." He said he will never retire, adding, "I spent my first 50 years trying to become well known as a writer and the next 30 trying to avoid being famous. I walk down the street or go to a football game and people shout, 'Hey, Andy.' I hate that." Other quotes included: "I hate to say it, but I had a great time in World War II." "I am going to die, and that doesn't appeal to me."



David Wentworth

Andy Rooney received the OPC's highest honor, the President's Award at the 2010 OPC Awards. Here, Rooney shares one of many laughs during his speech, with then-OPC President Allan Dodds Frank looking on.

Rooney has been an OPC member since 1947, and in 2010 received the OPC President's Award for his seven decades of reporting, news writing, essays, books and commentary. He has delivered 1,097 commentaries on the TV news magazine since 1978. In his first commentary, Rooney spoke about automobile fatalities on the Independence Day weekend. **Jeff Fager**, chairman of CBS News and executive producer of "60 Minutes," commented. "There's nobody like Andy and there never will be. He'll hate hearing this, but he's an American original. His contributions to 60 Minutes are immeasurable; he's also a great friend. It's harder for him to do it every week, but he will always have the ability to speak his mind on 60 Minutes when the urge hits him." During World War II Andy was a soldier correspondent in Europe with the daily military newspaper *Stars and Stripes*. He covered the D-Day landing and was one of eight correspondents who flew with the Eighth Air Force on the first American bombing of Germany. Rooney joined CBS as a writer in 1949.

World War II]. Time and again, Hollingworth took enormous risks to witness and report history for British newspapers during the African and Middle East campaigns of World War II, as well as later conflicts in Algeria, Vietnam and elsewhere." Clare sipped beer and champagne during the birthday party. When Herman asked her what she wanted most for her birthday, Hollingworth, who admits she is a bad speller, replied, "A dictionary. I've lost mine."

HONOLULU: When **Moana Tregaskis** returned home from the Solomons and celebration of the 69th anniversary of the Battle of Guadalcanal, she wrote a long report in September on her travels through those World War II battlegrounds. "The name Tregaskis continues to be known throughout the

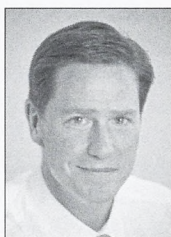
Solomons," she wrote. Moana, an OPC member, is the widow of **Richard Tregaskis**, author of the bestselling *Guadalcanal Diary* and an early OPC member. On the island of Ranongga, Moana met Ironi (Aaron), who carried John F Kennedy's coconut carved message to a coast watcher after the PT boat commanded by Kennedy, then a WWII U.S. Navy lieutenant junior grade, was sunk by a Japanese warship. Of Ironi, she wrote, "He's 86, seems frail and is not. Every day he raises the U.S. flag, supplied from time to time by the White House. Ironi's No.1 son is named John F. Kennedy." On Gizo Island, she went to the PT-109 Bar & Restaurant, named for Kennedy's PT boat.

JINOTEGA, Nicaragua: **Silvia González**, a correspondent for the daily

El Nuevo Diario of Nicaragua, has fled the country after she received threats following her series of articles about the killing of a former guerrilla member. Soon after the articles started appearing in February, González began receiving anonymous phone calls in which she was told, "If you keep bothering us, we give you 48 hours to live." In late August, González, who also wrote about corruption in the local government, found a chicken head along with a note with her name on it outside her home. She asked her paper not to disclose her whereabouts after she fled from Nicaragua.

KABUL, Afghanistan: Farhad Taqaddosi, cameraman for Iran's Press TV, died in a Kabul hospital September 20 of injuries received while covering the Taliban's September 13 attack at the U.S. embassy, NATO headquarters and other buildings in central Kabul. Seven civilians were killed and 15 were wounded during the attack. Taqaddosi is the 21st journalist, 14 of them international correspondents, to be killed in Afghanistan since the 2001 U.S. invasion.

LONDON: Andrew Langhoff, publisher of *The Wall Street Journal Europe*, resigned October 11 after disclosure of an agreement between the paper's circulation department and a Netherlands-based company that was featured positively in two articles. "Because the agreement could leave the impression that news coverage can be influenced by commercial relationships, as publisher with executive oversight, I believe that my resignation is now the most honorable course," Langhoff wrote in an email to his staff. He also is managing director of the European, African and Middle East operations of Dow Jones & Company.



Andrew Langhoff

The New York Times reported that British auditors of newspaper sales were reviewing the circulation of *The Wall Street Journal Europe* after reports that the publication had inflated its figures through unorthodox means. The Audit Bureau of Circulations in Britain, where the publication is based, said it was looking into a complex sponsorship deal involving thou-

sands of copies of *The Journal* and run by a company in which a former executive at the paper is now a partner. While the bureau had signed off on *The Journal's* circulation figures for the time periods in question, "there now appears to be additional new information which may give grounds for further investigation," Jerry Wright, chief executive of the bureau, said in a statement.

The scrutiny of *The Wall Street Journal Europe's* circulation has developed into the latest in a series of headaches for News Corp., which owns the paper. News Corp. is embroiled in a scandal over reporting methods at a former News Corp. tabloid in Britain, *The News of the World*, which was recently shut down by **Rupert Murdoch**.

Murdoch's News International has offered about \$3.2 million to the family of Milly Dowler, 13, who was murdered and whose messages after she disappeared in 2002 were illegally intercepted by *The News of the World*. The tabloid has been accused of wide-spread hacking. In the Dowler case, News International offered another \$1.6 million to charity.

MANILA: Louie Larroza, station manager of DYEC radio, received anonymous threats to his family because of his critical broadcasts, and then on September 15 unidentified assailants abducted his 17-year-old daughter in front of her university in Palawan, an island province south of Manila. The abductors forced the girl into a black vehicle, blindfolded her and kept her in a warehouse for eight hours. Police traced her location from a signal on her cell phone. She was released, and her abductors fled.

MOGADISHU, Somalia: Abiaziz Ahmed Aden, 24, a newscaster and reporter for Radio Narkabley, was killed October 4 when a suicide bomber detonated an explosive-laden truck outside a compound housing several government ministries. At least 100 people were killed by the explosion including students and parents awaiting results of an examination for a scholarship to study in Turkey. Two other journalists were wounded.

NEW YORK: Ruth Gruber, who has dedicated her life to rescuing her fellow Jews from oppression, turned 100 on September 30, and friends and colleagues visited her in her New York City apart-

ment during that week to celebrate. Ruth has been a member of the OPC since 1958. Gruber's life-defining moment came in 1944 when she escorted 1,000 Jewish refugees from Italy to the United States on a secret mission ordered by Harold Ickes, U.S. secretary of the interior. After World War II, she accompanied the Exodus carrying 4,500 Jewish refugees, including 600 children, back to Germany after five British destroyers and a cruiser attacked the ship and refused to allow it to land in Jerusalem. Starting her career in journalism in 1932, Gruber wrote about the oppression of Jews when she was a reporter for the *New York Herald Tribune* and the *New York Post*, and in books she wrote. She earned bachelor and master degrees by age 19 in America and a Ph.D. in Cologne, Germany at age 20. The American Jewish Historical Society wrote of her pre-World War II stay in Germany, "Gruber attended Nazi rallies and listened of Adolf Hitler vituperate against Americans, and particularly Jews. She completed her studies and returned to America, attuned from then on to the threats that totalitarianism posed to the Jewish people."



Ruth Gruber at her birthday party.

Kevin McDermott announced on September 27 that he has stepped down as co-chair of the Club's Freedom of Press Committee after 15 years in the office. **Jeremy Main** also resigned as a co-chair of that committee. In a letter to the board, McDermott wrote: "The FOP Committee's concern has always been to make the Overseas Press Club of America an essential participant in the advocacy of professional and human rights for journalists around the world. Notwithstanding the small numbers of its all-volunteer effort, OPC, as the largest organization of journalists with a professional interest in international affairs, is unique in that when it speaks for press freedom, it speaks for colleagues."

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

◆
OPC board member **Rebecca Blumenstein** is *The Wall Street Journal's* new Page One Editor. She will keep the title of deputy managing editor. **Robert Thomson**, *WSJ* managing editor, said, "Rebecca's global and digital background will ensure that our stories have maximum impact, here and abroad, and across languages and platforms. She will be traveling and talking far and wide to generate original ideas and pursue angles beyond the means or wit of our competitors."

Matt Murray took over Blumenstein's position as international editor, and **Alex Martin** is now deputy managing editor and national editor, Murray's former position.

◆
Abigail Pesta, *Marie Claire* editor-at-large and an OPC board member, has been hired by *Newsweek* and *The Daily Beast* to serve as editorial director of women's issues. Abigail, who has held various positions at *The Wall Street Journal* and *Dow Jones* in New York, Hong Kong and London, is known for bringing her hard news experience to the features sections of women's magazines.

◆
OPC member **Tony Ong**, press director at the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in New York City, returned to Taipei in late September to become deputy minister in Taiwan's Government Information Office. He was succeeded in New York by **Brian Su**, director of Taipei's press office in Vancouver.

◆
The International Women's Media Foundation will present three 2011 Courage in Journalism Awards at a luncheon in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel October 27. The awardees are **Adela Navarro Bello**, general director of *Zeta* news magazine in Mexico for reporting on Mexican drug car-



Adela Navarro Bello

tels; **Parisa Hafezi**, Reuters bureau chief in Tehran, for reporting on violent protests in Iran; and **Chiranuch Premchalporn** of Thailand, who faced 20 years in prison for failing to delete critical remarks about the Thai monarchy from her Prachatal website. The Foundation will give its Lifetime Achievement Award to **Kate Adle**, BBC's first female chief news correspondent who covered conflicts in Bosnia, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

◆
Joel Simon, executive director of the Committee to Protect Journalists, wrote about how the war on terror unleashed a war on journalists. He wrote: "President Obama's record as a zealous classifier of government documents has institutionalized increased official secrecy. Legal efforts to compel journalists to reveal confidential sources are prevalent, and without a federal shield law, journalists facing a federal subpoena confront the prospect of jail. Similarly, the U.S. Justice Department has sought to imprison government employees for leaking classified information to the media. In its operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, the U.S. military has detained journalists without charge for long periods, and failed to adequately investigate our documentation of the killings of 16 journalists by U.S. forces' fire. The killings, however, did not appear to be deliberate attacks on the media. But whatever damage was done to press freedom domestically pales in comparison to the devastating impact of U.S. post-9/11 policies on press freedom around the world."



Joel Simon

◆
Simon's committee reported that 81 journalists were in jail around the world at the end of 2000. By the end of 2001, that number shot up to 118. Today there are 145, most held on state security charges. Abusive use of national security was the single greatest charge invoked to justify journalist imprisonments in 2010, the Committee to Protect Journalists found.

◆
The 2011 winners of the Maria Moors Cabot Prize for outstanding

reporting on Latin America and the Caribbean were announced September 14 by the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. The winners and excerpts from their citations:

Arizona Daily Star, Tucson: "No one particular political issue currently creates more emotion and debate in the United States than immigration. In no state has the tumult been greater than in Arizona. And in Arizona, the people living closest to the sector of the U.S.-Mexico border where more than half of all illegal crossings happen and where violent criminals smuggle drugs read the Tucson-based *Arizona Daily Star*. The *Star* has fulfilled its responsibilities with distinction. It has run a steady stream of major enterprise stories and series for the last decade that have explored the issue in all its complications and human dimensions — not just its sensational aspects. In a confusing political cacophony of shouting voices in Arizona, the *Daily Star* is a force for fact-based sanity."

El Diario de Juárez and *Riodoce*, Mexico: "Mexico is one of the most dangerous places in the world to practice journalism. Thirty journalists in Mexico have been murdered and another seven have disappeared in the past five years, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Gunmen strafe and throw grenades at media outlets. Death threats are a daily occurrence. In two of the most dangerous cities in Mexico — Ciudad Juárez and Culiacán, Sinaloa — journalists at two regional papers heroically struggle to carry on. We honor *El Diario de Juárez* and *Riodoce* of Culiacán to give heart to all those exceptional journalists throughout Mexico braving death to do their jobs, especially in areas ravaged by drug wars."



Carlos Dada addresses colleagues at an October 2009 DART workshop on covering trauma in Latin America.

Carlos Dada, El Salvador "Carlos Dada is the founder and director of *El Faro*, a vanguard, online news web-

site which he runs from El Salvador, a small country that is still suffering from the trauma of its decade-long civil war. *El Faro* means lighthouse or beacon — and that's what it is. With a limited budget, it has consistently published outstanding stories and projects — investigating long-ignored crimes and human rights abuses and now tracking growing drug violence throughout Central America."

Jean-Michel Leprince, Canada
"Jean-Michel Leprince has brought Latin America to life for Canadians since the 1970s. He has offered vivid and thoughtful French language television and radio reporting on the region for Société Radio-Canada/CBC. His stories have covered a wide spectrum — ranging from the impact of street gangs in El Salvador and in Guatemala; the drug war in Michoacán, Mexico; the evolution of gay rights in Cuba; to the prosecution of Colombian politicians accused of complicity with illegal paramilitary groups."



The Committee to Protect Journalists will present its 2011 International Press Freedom Awards to four journalists who have endured and defied media repression. To be honored at a dinner in November are **Mansoor al-Jamri**, co-founder and editor-in-chief of *Al-Wasat*, an Arabic-language independent daily in Bahrain who was subject to political pressure by authorities who said the paper printed false stories to incite Shiite unrest; **Natalya Radina**, editor-in-chief of the opposition news website Charter 97 in Belarus who fled her country after she was charged with organizing mass disorder; **Javier Arturo Valdez Cárdenas**, founder of the weekly *Ríodoce* that covered crime and corruption in Sinaloa, one of Mexico's most violent states; and **Umar Cheena**, a reporter with the Pakistan daily *The News* who continued to cover politics, national security and corruption after he was kidnapped and tortured last year. The Committee will present its Burton Benjamin Memorial Award to OPC member and former anchor and managing editor of the CBS Evening News, **Dan Rather**, for his "60 years of probing journalism as a television correspondent and anchor covering stories around the world."



Boots Duque and Jaroslaw Wlodarczyk

Boots Duque, OPC office assistant, and her twin sister **Jojo** visited Poland in September, and Boots met with the president of the Warsaw Press Club. Here is her report:

"The Warsaw Press Club is located inside the Old Town. I met with the president of the Warsaw Press Club board, **Jaroslaw Wlodarczyk**, 41. We call him by his nickname — Jarek. We discussed club business for almost two hours. The Warsaw Club was founded in 2009. They have a room of desks and some computers for visiting journalists. They have an attractive and spacious lounging room as well. They hold photo exhibits outdoor once a year for the public in front of their club. Jarek has several projects in mind — including human rights concerns."

OSLO: A young Yemeni woman journalist was announced October 7 as one of this year's three Nobel Peace Prize winners, all women. **Tawakkol Karman**, 32, mother of three children, is a founder of the activist group Women Journalists Without Chains. She has been arrested several times since 2007 when she began organizing weekly protests against Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh. She survived an assassination attempt last year, and she has been smeared in some media. She has campaigned against child marriage and for women's rights. Despite being targeted, Karman has remained steadfast in her demands for the resignation of President Saleh and democratic reform in Yemen. Karman told the BBC Arabic Service, "I am so happy with the news of this prize and I dedicate it to all the martyrs and wounded of the Arab Spring." Two other women won 2011 Pulitzer Peace Prizes: Liberian President



Tawakkol Karman

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and Liberian peace activist Leymah Gbowee.

PARIS: A French prosecutor said no case will be brought on allegations from **Tristane Banon**, 31, a French TV reporter and author, that she was sexually assaulted by Dominique Strauss-Kahn nine years ago. In an October 13 statement, the prosecutor said the case was dropped because of the three-year statute of limitations. Charges that Strauss-Kahn, former managing director of the International Monetary Fund, attempted to rape a New York City hotel housekeeper were dropped in August because of doubts about the credibility of his accuser.

SANAA, Yemen: Five journalists have been killed in Yemen since February when protests started calling for President Ali Abdallah Salen's departure. The latest killed were **Hassan-al-Wadhaf**, a cameraman with the Arabic Media Agency, died September 25, five days after he was hit in the face by sniper fire; reporter **Abdel Majid Al-Samawi** died October 3 from gunshot wound received a week earlier; and **Abdel Hakim Al-Nour** a cameraman and producer for Mas production company, was killed in a bombardment in the city of Taiz October 4.

SEATTLE, Washington: OPC member **Doug Merlino's** non-fiction book, *The Hustle: One Team and Ten Lives in Black and White*, about a basketball team of poor black and white rich kids has won the 2011 Washington State Book Award for Biography/Memoir. In a September e-mail, Merlino, a former editor of the *OPC Bulletin* and an OPC Foundation scholarship winner, said, "It was a tremendous honor to get it given all the great books written by Washington State authors." Merlino commented, "I was a member of the team. Very memorable experience, made more so several years later when one of our guards was murdered and left in a ditch. That's what started the project, really." In Seattle in October, Merlino was invited to the Washington State Book Awards Party, and the next day he was a panelist in a program on the American prison system.

SUNGAI KOLOK, Thailand: **Phamon Phonphanit**, 61, a reporter for

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(Continued From Page 9)

the local newspaper *Sue Samut Aryakam*, and five other people were killed in a series of bomb attacks September 16 in Thailand's insurgency-plagued southern region. More than 100 other people were injured when three car and motorcycle bombs were detonated at 20-minute intervals. Police arrested two suspects whom authorities said were identified by surveillance cameras.

VILLEFRANCHE de ROUGUE, France: Helen Gibson reported on October 1 that her husband, **Nat Gibson**, suffered a brain hemorrhage in 2002, but he came through miraculously although he still has memory problems. The Gibsons covered the Vietnam War for UPI. They now live in the old part of a 13th century market town where they have spent several years working on a townhouse. Helen sent her e-mail report to fellow Vietnam War correspondent **David Lamb**, who had spent some time tracking them down.

WASHINGTON: Karla Rivas, news editor for Radio Progreso in Honduras, is the 2011 winner of the Peter Mackler Award for Courageous and Ethical Journalism. The award was presented at an evening ceremony in the National Press Club October 20 by Global Media Forum and Reporters Without Borders. The first woman to win the award, Rivas works for the Jesuit-run radio station that covers current events, sports and art news. The station was one of the first victims of raids by the military after the 2009 coup.

In an announcement, the sponsors of the award wrote: "Karla Rivas became a vocal opponent of the military tactics and continues to defend Radio Progreso's right to broadcast uncensored information. **Camille Mackler**, Project Director for the Peter Mackler Award, said that 'Ms. Rivas has shown enormous courage and integrity by asserting the right of the People of Honduras to receive fair, accurate news. She has done so regardless of the danger she placed herself in. This selflessness and strong ethics are what the Peter Mackler Award rewards by naming Ms. Rivas this year's winner.' "

A new two-year exchange program will offer 48 young journalists from Russia and the United States the opportunity to work in newsrooms in each other's country. "This exchange will help establish professional relationships between the young journalists from two nations, both important in the world, yet once dire enemies," said **Eric Newton**, senior adviser to the president of Knight Foundation, which is funding the program through a \$250,000 grant to the International Center for Journalists. Selected journalists, who must be under 30 years of age, will work in media organizations for about one month. The first exchange will take place in April 2012.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Yu (Fish) Wei, 91, a longtime spokesman for the Nationalist Chinese government, died of cancer September 26 in Palo Alto, California. He was a spokesman for the Nationalist Air Force in Taipei after World War II, and he then served as press officer at Nationalist embassies in Manila, Tokyo and Vienna. A popular and friendly guy, Fish was well liked by hundreds of foreign correspondents whom he met over the years. Yu Wei was nicknamed Fish, English translation of the Chinese word *yu*. During WWII, Yu was a fighter pilot with the Chinese Air Force fighting the Japanese. He is survived by his wife Loretta and their four children.

How several foreign correspondents from long ago remember Yu Wei:

Bob Elegant, International News Service, *Newsweek*, *Los Angeles Times*: "Fish and I were particularly close because we could speak to each other and joke in both our native languages. He shied away from lying about the [Nationalist] Chinese Air Force use of sidewinder air-to-air missile during the Quemoy crisis of 1958, leaving it to a General commanding the Chinese Air Force to lie to me, pretending their lopsided victory in air-to-air combat mass dogfights was due entirely to their superiority over the Communists because of their American training. I mourn Fish and ...remember him as a warm friend, a good companion, an uncompromising, straight colonel and close colleague."

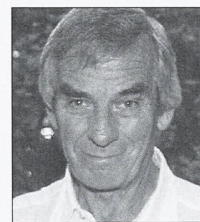
Joe Galloway, UPI, *U.S. News & World Report*, Knight-Ridder newspapers, McClatchy newspapers: "Deeply saddened to hear of the death of my old,

good friend, Col. Yu Wei. He really was one of the good guys in the old days in Tokyo."

Don Becker, UPI, Knight-Ridder newspapers: "Fish was a wonderful guy. I wonder if he was an intelligence agent. He was too smart to be just a PR man."

Susan Wagner, daughter of the late **Arnold Dibble**, UPI: "Awww. I remember him. He was a nice guy."

British photographer **Robert Whitaker**, 71, who covered entertainment personalities and conflicts in Cambodia, Vietnam, Bangladesh and the Middle East, died September 20 in West Sussex, England of cancer. In addition to wars, he photographed the Beatles, John Lennon with a dandelion covering an eye, Salvador Dali's nostrils and other famous personalities. His photos were displayed in Britain's National Portrait Gallery. Whitaker was wounded by a grenade in Vietnam. He gave up professional photography after his wife, Sue, was nearly killed in 1972 by rockets in Syria. Sue, a daughter and two sons survive.



James M. Cannon, 93, a war correspondent and magazine editor before he became an adviser to Washington policy makers, died September 15 in a Virginia hospice of complications from a stroke. Cannon covered the Korean War for *The Baltimore Sun*, lugging alcohol because it made his sources more talkative, he explained. After the war, he became a writer and editor at *Time* and then an editor and vice president at *Newsweek*. Cannon then joined the staff of New York Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller in 1989, and in 1975 he became an assistant to President Gerald R. Ford.

Elinor Griest, 89, a retired *Reader's Digest* senior editor and an OPC member since 1961, died August 4. She started her journalism career in 1947 as a writer of the official World War II history of the

Press Freedom Withers in Arab Spring Aftermath

By Larry Martz

Chair of the Freedom of the Press Committee

Whatever its long-term impact on the cause of liberty and democracy, the Arab Spring movement has been bad news for press freedom. To nobody's surprise, countries still cracking down on their uprisings continue, often viciously, to oppress journalists trying to cover the protests. But even in Egypt and Tunisia, where long-time tyrants have been deposed, their successor governments are arresting and assaulting journalists, censoring the media and threatening new moves to control coverage.

In Egypt, former President Hosni Mubarak is on trial for the stifling oppression of his nearly 30 years in power. But the trial looks increasingly like a whitewash, with prosecution witnesses changing their stories and journalists barred from covering key sessions of the court.

Most recently, the government crackdown on Coptic Christians protesting religious persecution killed dozens of people, including **Wael Mikhael**, a cameraman for the TV broadcaster Al-Fareeq. At the same time, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, security forces violently raided the offices of two television stations and shut off electricity, telephone and Internet connections to the independent daily *Al-Shorouk*. State television coverage of the protests

was misleading and inflammatory, ignoring civilian deaths and urging viewers to "defend" the military from "angry Christian protesters."

In late September, the Committee to Protect Journalists reported the censorship of two newspapers, the weekly *Sawt al-Umma* and the daily *Rose al-Youssef*. Reporters Without Borders said the ruling military Supreme Council had twice raided and shut down a bureau of the Al Jazeera TV network, and had warned that it would use its emergency powers against any journalist "threatening social peace" — whatever the council deemed that to mean.

Months after the forced resignation of President Zine al Abidine Ben Ali in Tunisia, the new government was still trying to control media coverage of continuing protests against its policies. In May, 15 local and international reporters and photographers covering a demonstration were brutally beaten by security officers, at least one of them wielding a metal rod, and their cameras were confiscated. The Interior Ministry issued an apology and promised an investigation. But in July, when another ten journalists were attacked again at a protest, Prime Minister Béji Caïd Essebsi called them troublemakers and said the media were to blame for Tunisia's continuing unrest. And in September, blogger **Sami Ben Abdallah**, an investigative reporter and

an acid critic of the new regime, was arrested as he was about to board a flight to Paris. He was interrogated for eight hours without being allowed to talk to his lawyer, and banned from leaving the country without permission of the Interior Ministry.

Predictably enough, the continuing crackdown on protest of any kind in Syria and Iran has stifled most media, with many journalists and bloggers jailed, satellite broadcasts jammed and reporters expelled or refused visas. But there were many similar incidents in nominal Western allies including Yemen, Oman, Turkey and Iraq.

In Yemen, where three journalists have been killed covering the continuing protests against the government of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, dozens more have been attacked, arrested or harassed. In Iraq, special forces in Kurdistan raided the offices of *Lvin* magazine on September 8, beat its editor, **Ahmed Mirin**, with the butt of a Kalashnikov, and arrested him. On the same day, **Hadi al-Mahdi**, a prominent talk radio host who had criticized both the government and the opposition and backed the continuing protests, was murdered at his home in Baghdad, shot twice in the head (see "People" page 5). He had previously been arrested and beaten, and said he had been warned repeatedly that he was in danger. "I have lived the last three days in a state of terror," he wrote on his Facebook page the day he died. He was the seventh journalist killed in Iraq this year.

People Remembered: (Continued From Page 10)

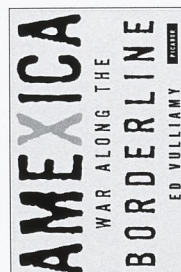
Office of Strategic Services. Elinor spent the rest of her career at *Reader's Digest*, working up from an assistant to the Washington, D.C. editor, assistant to the senior editor in New York and then as senior editor of the magazine. She retired in 1987. Elinor graduated from Swarthmore College in 1943, studied at the Sorbonne in Paris in 1948 and worked for the U.S. government's Marshall Plan in Paris as an information specialist.



When **Sonya Fry** was hired as OPC executive director in 1994, Griest was a great mentor helping Fry wend her way through new reciprocal clubs and explaining all the details of the Constitution and club management. Griest served on the OPC board as an associate member from 1997 to 2000. She also was a member of the OPC admissions committee for several years until she relocated. In her later years her health began to fail, and she moved from New York City to Columbia, Missouri to be closer to family.

New Books: (Continued From Page 12)

illegal drugs; and the interrelated economies of drugs and the ruthless, systematic murder of young women in Ciudad Juarez. Amexica takes us far beyond today's headlines. It is a street-level portrait, by turns horrific and sublime, of a place and people in a time of war as much as of the war itself, an impressively rendered, nightmare-inducing account." Here are some statistics. In 2009, despite a military campaign waged by the Mexican government against the drug cartels, 7,724 people were murdered across the country. By this summer, the total killed since the operation began in 2006 was 24,000.



— by Al Kaff

New Books

GLOBAL

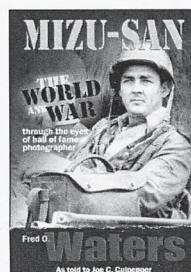
HOW IS DEATH COMMEMORATED in different cultures around the world? That was the question that **Sarah Murray** considered after her father died and she was puzzled by the choices he made about the disposal of his "organic matter." Murray, a longtime contributor to the *Financial Times* and an OPC member, embarked on voyages around the globe to learn how death is dealt with in various countries. She reported her findings in *Making an Exit: From the Magnificent to the Macabre — How We Dignify the Dead* [New York: St. Martin's Press].

Some of her findings: In Iran, mourning is very public. In some parts of the world joy and celebration are necessary for the dead to move on to their next chapter. In Sicily, dead bodies are left on display. In Hong Kong, paper replicas of their possessions are burned for the dead. Brits believed they were being buried at home if they were buried in colonial



India. Since ancient times, human remains have been turned into everything from skullcaps to Victorian hair broaches. Around the world, spirits of the dead come back and they must be fed and entertained.

“VERY FEW PEOPLE CAN SAY that they accomplished their life's goal before they were 30 years old. That's what happened to me. It's been a good ride.” That was what **Fred Waters**, 83, a photojournalist for INS and AP, wrote in *Mizu-San: The World and War Through the Eyes of Hall of Fame Photographer*. Friends and colleagues always called Waters by the nickname Mizu, the Japanese word for water. Waters covered wars and conflicts in Korea, the Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam and other Southeast Asia hot spots. He shot dangerous scenes up close, because he worked in the days before telephoto lenses allowed journalists to capture images on film from a distance. Back in the United States after working in Asia, Fred covered the aftermath of Martin Luther King's assassination in 1968, street riots in Memphis, integration of public schools in Birmingham, Alabama, and professional football, baseball and hockey in St. Louis. He rubbed shoulders with the Kennedy brothers; Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan; Soviet Premier Khrushchev, Mother



Theresa, Ted Williams, Marilyn Monroe, Jayne Mansfield and Bob Hope. In 2008, Fred was inducted into the Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame. He was assigned to the St. Louis bureau when he retired from AP in 1986. Fred earned a Purple Heart for being wounded while in World War II military service, and two more when he was a correspondent covering the Korean War. Mizu's adventures are written as told to the co-author, **Joe C. Cupepper**, a veteran journalist, newspaper editor and photographer who spent 23 years with the Gannett newspapers. Initial proceeds from the book will endow an annual scholarship in Waters' name for a deserving member of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps in the high school in the town where Fred lives, Gulf Breeze, Florida.

NORTH AMERICA

THE U.S.-MEXICAN BORDER is a place of violence and murder that **Ed Vulliamy** describes in detail in *Amexica: War Along the Borderline* [London: Macmillan], now out in paperback with a new afterword. Vulliamy, a former *Guardian* and *Observer* correspondent, traveled 2,000 miles along the frontier from the Pacific coast to the Gulf of Mexico, and from Tijuana to Matamoros, a journey through a kaleidoscopic landscape of corruption and all-out civil war. Kirkus Reviews wrote, "He describes in revelatory detail the dreaded narco gangs; the smuggling of people, weapons, and

(Continued on Page 11)

Coming Up...

**Richard Holbrooke
Tribute at Asia Society
Monday, November 28**

**Luncheon:
Asia Innovation
with Rebecca Fannin
Tuesday, November 29**

**OPC Scholarship Deadline:
December 1**

Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA